

**WORLD DEVELOPMENT GROUP**  
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**Ratified Research Guidelines Directory (RRGD)**  
*First edition (May 2010)*

**Name:** **MOOSE: Meta-analysis of Observational Studies in Epidemiology**

First published: 2000

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Organization: MOOSE Group

Organization type: Ad-Hoc

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Purpose: To improve the usefulness of meta-analyses for authors, reviewers, editors, readers, and decision makers.

Focus: Conduct of secondary research

Governance: The MOOSE Group: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *No further information published.*

Finance: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Methods:	A systematic review of the published literature on the conduct and reporting of meta-analyses in observational studies using MEDLINE, Educational Research Information Center (ERIC), PsycLIT, and the Current Index to Statistics was conducted. Reference lists of the 32 studies retrieved were examined and experts in the field were contacted. Participants were assigned to small-group discussions on the subjects of bias, searching and abstracting, heterogeneity, study categorization, and statistical methods. From the material presented at the workshop, the authors developed a checklist summarizing recommendations for reporting meta-analyses of observational studies. The checklist and supporting evidence were circulated to all conference attendees and additional experts. All suggestions for revisions were addressed.
Updates:	Unknown
Maintenance:	None
Feedback?	Yes
Feedback:	Update guideline
Evaluation?	None
Verification:	Updated by publisher/organization
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